

SENATE BILL 1979
By Ketron

AN ACT to amend Chapter 384 of the Private Acts of 1947, as amended by Chapter 118 of the Private Acts of 1973, and any other acts amendatory thereto, to create a new Part III of the general sessions court of Rutherford County.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Chapter 384 of the Private Acts of 1947, as amended by Chapter 118 of the Private Acts of 1973, and any other acts amendatory thereto, is further amended by adding the following language to the end of Section 12:

There is created a new Part of the Court of General Sessions of Rutherford County, such Part to be designated as Part III. At the August general election in 2006, and every eight (8) years thereafter, the qualified voters of Rutherford County shall elect a person to serve as judge of Part III of the Court of General Sessions for an eight-year term. The first judge of Part III of the Court of General Sessions of Rutherford County shall take office on September 1, 2006.

The judge of Part III shall be required to possess all of the same qualifications as the general sessions judges in Parts I and II and shall be vested with the same authority and jurisdiction to try, hear and dispose of cases and other matters that come before such court as is conferred upon the judges of Parts I and II.

The judge of Part III shall receive the same compensation, payable in the same manner as the judges of Parts I and II.

Cases shall be assigned to the judge of Part III by the presiding judge. The judge of Part III shall join the presiding judge rotation established by this section and shall become the presiding judge on September 1, 2007.

Rutherford County shall provide all funding necessary for the establishment and operation of Part III of the Court of General Sessions, as well as a courtroom, office space and such personnel as is necessary to efficiently operate such court.

SECTION 2. This act shall have no effect unless it is approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the legislative body of Rutherford County. Its approval or nonapproval shall be proclaimed by the presiding officer of the Rutherford County legislative body and certified to the secretary of state.

SECTION 3. For the purpose of approving or rejecting the provisions of this act, it shall be effective upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it. For all other purposes, it shall become effective as provided in Section 2.